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SOURCE Czechoslovak newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

FEBRUARY COAL PRODUCTION LAGS;
INDUSTRIES PLEDGE INCREASED OUTPUT

COAL AND IRON PRODUCTION IN FEBRUARY -- Rude Pravo, No 52, 3 Mar 49

The February plan for iron production in Czechoslovak foundries was fulfilled 100.1 percent, and for steel 104.5 percent. The largest foundry enterprises fulfilled their plans as follows (in percent):

Enterprise	Iron	Steel
Vitkovice Ironworks	105.2	105.7
Banska a Hutni (Mining and Metallurgy)	102.1	99.7
Spojene Ocelarny (United Steel Works)	85	109.7

These figures reflect the special efforts made in connection with the contest and pledges in honor of the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party 25-29 May.

The mines fulfilled their February plan as a whole by 99.9 percent, for black coal by 99.4 percent, and for brown coal by 100.8 percent. Slovakia fulfilled its plan by 77.7 percent. Individual fields fulfilled their plans as follows: for black coal, Ostrava 99.2 percent, Kladno 100, Pilsen 107.2, Trutnov 91.1, and Rosice 101; and for brown coal, Most 99.8 percent, Sokolov 102.1, Southern Bohemia 159.1, and Southern Moravia 112.6.

The plan for coke production was fulfilled 106.5 percent at Ostrava, 114.3 percent at Rosice, and 106.6 percent as a whole.

The main reason for the failure of the coal production plan was that the Doubrava mine, which ordinarily produces about 6 percent of the total daily production of the Ostrava-Farvin coal field, was not producing as a result of a disaster. Otherwise, the production of this field was satisfactory. The Pilsen and Kladno fields showed gratifying results, whereas the Most field lagged behind, and production in the Slovensko (Slovakia) field fell below 80 percent in February.

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CONSTRUCTION PROJECT QUOTAS -- Slovenske Slovo, No 41, 18 Feb 49

At a Ministry of Information press conference on 17 February, O. Stibor, head of the construction department of the State Planning Office, discussed the execution of the construction plan. He said that the government had already approved the basic plan for construction amounting to 8.7 billion crowns and the second part of the plan calling for 21.7 billion crowns. About a third of the total would be spent for industrial building and a quarter for housing.

Too many buildings started before February are now unfinished and must be carried over into the Five-Year Plan. The new production quotas of the Five-Year Plan make it necessary to assign priorities to such building projects and to postpone less important construction which was not finished during the two-year plan until the 1949 plan has been fulfilled. Restrictions on starting further construction will continue through 1949 because too many building projects have been previously authorized (10,000 in the Czech Provinces and at least 5,000 in Slovakia).

The construction industry will need more man power to complete its 1949 plan. The man power shortage is worse now than at the beginning of the year.

SMELTER PLEDGES INCREASED PRODUCTION -- Rude Pravo, No 51, 2 Mar 49

The smelting plant at Celakovice has pledged to increase production of refined copper for communications and wire from 250,000 pieces per day in February to a million pieces per day by the time of the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party 25-29 May.

New shearing machinery will be put in operation. Old and inefficient molds for casting ingots will be removed and replaced with new ones, up to 50 percent more efficient. The installation of two new stools and the erection of a crane for heavy transport in the rolling mill will reduce loss of time. The installation of two new induction furnaces will increase production in the foundry by 5,000 kilograms of furnace product and 3,000 kilograms of finished product per day.

MINERS PLEDGE INCREASED PRODUCTION -- Rude Pravo, No 51, 2 Mar 49

The miners of the Stalin [coal] mine in the Ostrava-Hrusova field have pledged to increase their production by 69 tons per day to complete their 6-month plan 10 days ahead of schedule. During those 10 days they will produce 8,460 tons above plan.

The workers' collective pledges to cut production costs by 4.70 crowns per ton, which will mean a saving of 1,152,440 crowns for a year's production of 25,000 tons. Instead of the 2.66 cubic meters of wood per hundred tons allowed under the plan, 2.40 cubic meters will be used, providing a further saving of 433,500 crowns.

PORCELAIN FACTORY EXCEEDS PLAN -- Rude Pravo, No 51, 2 Mar 49

The February plan in the factory for industrial porcelain at Stara Role was fulfilled 117.5 percent. The March plan is 5 tons greater than the February plan.

CHEMICAL WORKERS PLEDGE INCREASE -- Rude Pravo, No 51, 2 Mar 49

The pledges of the workers of the Bohumin factory of the Spolek pro Chemickou a Hutni Vyrobu (Association for Chemical and Metallurgical Production), in honor of the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party, include an 11-percent increase in the production of zinc white lead and a 5,000-kilogram increase in the production of corrosive sublimate by the time of the Ninth Congress, 25-29 May.

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